APR 1 4 2004 35

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of	
Lai, Wai Hing et. al.	Group Art Unit: 1761
Application No.: 10/643,949	Examiner: Timothy F. Simone
Filed: August 20, 2003	Confirmation No.: 5425
For: An Electric Cooking Apparatus	

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The examiner's statement of reasons for allowance, which accompanies the Notice of Allowability dated January 21, 2004, indicates that the combination of elements recited in claim 1 is not taught by the prior art. It should be noted that claim 11 is a separate independent claim which recites a different combination of elements, and therefore has a different scope. As such, claim 11 should not be construed as being limited in any way by the specific combination of features identified in the statement of reasons for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: April 14, 2004

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